(d) what steps Government have so far taken to meet the target during the remaining period of the curren financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) There has been a shortfall of 7.30 million tonnes during the first six months when compared to budgetary target.

(b) There is a shortfall of Rs. 482 crores as compared to Budget estimates, proportionate upto September, 1993. There was an excess of Rs. 199 crores as compared to Budget estimate, proportionate upto September, 1992.

(c) It would be difficult to make precise estimate in this regard at this stage.

(d) The user departments have been requested to offer traffic according to original projections and targets. There is improvement in demand for some commodities like fertilizers, cement etc. and efforts are being made to meet the demand in full.

Mishap of suburban train in Bombay

826. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleahsed to state:

(a) whether in a suburban train mishap in Bombay recently a large number of women passengerh were killed and seriously injured;

(b) if so, what are the details of the enquiry conducted by Government into the tragic incident;

(c) whether any compensation was provided to the next of the kin of those injured; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MISISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir. On 13.10.93, some lady commuters of the 635 Dn. Ladies Special Local train going from Churchgate to Virar jumped out of the stationary train between Kandivli and Borivli stations owing to some misapprehension and panic created about a false alarm of a fire. 24 lady commuters and 1 male vendor got hit and killed by an UP Local train running through on the adjacent track. Six persons sustained injuries including 4 grievous.

(b) The Commissioner of Railway Safety, Central Circle conducted statutory inquiry into this occurrence. He has concluded that the cause of the occurrence can not be attributed either to the failure of railway personnel or railway equipment He has categorised the incidedt as 'failure of persons other than railway staff, whose, denitity could not be established.

(c) Rs. 1.38 lakhs have been paid as ex-gratia to the kith of deceased and to injured persons. Compensation will be decided by Civil Courts on claims preferred by the victims of the mishap.

(d) the recommendations made by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, in the wake of this unusual occurrence are under active consideration and examinaton of the Railway Administration.

Stoppage of Express trains at railway stations in Gujarat

827. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to accord sanction to give stoppage of Jammu-Talwi-Exp., Sarvodaya-Express, Rajdhani Express, Awadh Express and Frontier Mail trains at Surat, Godhra and Dahod Railway Stations of Gujarat State in Western Railway in current year by the 31st December, 1993;

(b) whether Government have received representations to provide more railway facilities to these most industrial and backward cities of the Gujarat State;

(c) what steps have been taken so far by Government in this context;

(d) whether the Chief General Manager has submitted his report in view of public demand; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MISISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) At present, Jammu Tawai-Bombay Express and Avadh Express stop at Surat & Godhra; Sarvodaya Express at Godhra; and Frontier Mail at Surat, Godhra & Dahod. Sarvodaya Express is running between Jammu Tawi & Ahmedabad and does not go to Surat.

(b) and (c) Some representations regarding stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Surat, Godhra & Dahod and Jammu Tawi- Bombay Express, Sarvodaya Express at Dahod were received and the same were examined but not found feasible at present.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Electrification of Ahmedabad-Hapa Rail Track-Line

828. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUQLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for work on Ahmedabad-Hapa Rail Track Line in Western Railway during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard;

(c) the estimated cost of this project and time schedule fixed for its completion;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon so far;

(e) whether the project is behind schedule; and

(f) if so, what are the reasons there for?

THE MISISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Late Running of Trains

829. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation regarding late running of Express and other trains under jurisdiction of South Central Railways;

(b) what measures South Central Railway is initiating to avoid delays of trains due to in-efficient supervision and generally poor level of motivation amongst staff of S.C. Railways;

(c) whether it is a fact that late running of Dakshin Express destined for Visakhapatnam affects train passing though territory of South Central Railways; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to ensure punctuality of important trains like Dakshin Express?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) Various measures initiated to improve punctuality of Mail/Express trains like Dakshin Express and 8561/8562 Link Express, include special monitoring at inter departmental meetings at Divisional and Headquarters' level, punitive action against defaulters, rewards for meritorious performance, etc. etc. Other avoidable reasons are also analysed and preventive action taken.